

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/034,359	KENMOCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Martin Lerner	2654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 16 August 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 to 25.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 1 and 15 to 17, the prior art of record does not disclose or reasonably suggest the combination of a phoneme database with a deterministic component and a stochastic component, and inputting lyrics, where a stochastic component is adjusted in a low frequency region according to a desired pitch. *Nakajima et al.* discloses a phoneme database for singing-sound synthesis and inputting lyrics, and *Serra et al.* ('902) teaches a deterministic component and a stochastic component, but the prior art of record does not additionally disclose or reasonably suggest varying a stochastic component in a low frequency region according to a desired pitch.

Regarding independent claim 7, the prior art of record does not disclose or reasonably suggest the combination of a phoneme database with a deterministic component and a stochastic component, and inputting lyrics, where a duration time is adjusted by repeating a plurality of frames in a first direction and in an opposite second direction. *Nakajima et al.* discloses a phoneme database for singing-sound synthesis and inputting lyrics, and *Serra et al.* ('902) teaches a deterministic component and a stochastic component, but the prior art of record does not additionally disclose or reasonably suggest adjusting a duration time by repeating a plurality of frames in a first direction and in a second opposite direction.

Regarding independent claim 11, the prior art of record does not disclose or reasonably suggest the combination of a phoneme database with a deterministic component and a stochastic component, and inputting lyrics, where a phoneme database stores voice fragment data comprising elongated sounds by elongating a single phoneme and storing a flat spectrum of a stochastic component by multiplying an amplitude spectrum by an inverse of a typical spectrum within an interval of an elongated sound. *Nakajima et al.* discloses a phoneme database for singing-sound synthesis and inputting lyrics, and *Serra et al.* ('902) teaches a deterministic component and a stochastic component, but the prior art of record does not additionally disclose or reasonably suggest storing voice fragment data in a phoneme database comprising elongated sounds by elongating a single phoneme and storing a flat spectrum of a stochastic component by multiplying an amplitude spectrum by an inverse of a typical spectrum within an interval of an elongated sound.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

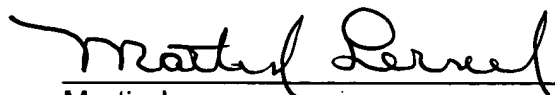
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Martin Lerner whose telephone number is (571) 272-7608. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday to Thursday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571) 272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ML
9/8/05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Lerner", written over a horizontal line.

Martin Lerner
Examiner
Group Art Unit 2654